

FIRE-RESCUE FACILITIES BOND ISSUE BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
8th FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, 33301
THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2016
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

MEMBERS		Present	Absent
Thornie Jarrett, Chair	P	5	0
Douglas Meade, Vice Chair	P	4	1
Nadine Hankerson	A	1	4
Allan Kozich	A	1	4
Steven Mayer	A	1	4
Patrick McTigue	P	5	0
Frederick Nesbitt	A	3	2
Doug Ruth	A	3	2
Frank Snedaker	P	4	1

Staff

Annalise Mannix, Interim Assistant City Engineer
Luisa Arbelaez, Project Manager
Robert Hoechert, Fire Chief
Brigitte Chiappetta, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Jarrett began the meeting at 6:18 p.m.

• **Roll Call**

As of this date there were 10 appointed members to the Committee, which means 6 would constitute a quorum. It was noted there was not a quorum at the commencement of the meeting.

Chair Jarrett advised this meeting would be a workshop.

II Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

This item not addressed due to lack of quorum.

III. Staff Liaison Report

• **Design – FS 8, FS 13, FS 54**

Ms. Mannix provided the following update on Fire Station #8:

- In the design phase, approximately 30% complete
- The design consultant submitted the DRC package
 - Will be presented at the DRC meeting on February 23, 2016
- Staff is coordinating community outreach
 - Poinciana Park Civic Association (February 10) and Croissant Park Civic Association (March 29)

Chair Jarrett requested that the Board members receive a notification email when staff sets up meeting with civic associations so that they can attend.

Ms. Mannix provided the following update on Fire Station #13:

- In the planning phase
- City issued a task order to the design consultant to determine the feasibility of constructing the station within the existing site
- Staff provided comments on the feasibility study on January 27, 2016
- Final feasibility study to be completed mid-February
- The City is awaiting an official response from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and Antioch College regarding the new site on the Birch State Park.
- Staff also the exploring possibility of renovating existing building

Ms. Mannix provided the following update on Fire Station #54:

- In the design phase, 70% complete
 - Completion of construction documents expected in March, 2016
- Completed site demolition and all other related conditions required of the land swap between Bokampers and the City
- Legal staff coordinating with Bokampers for transfer of land

Chair Jarrett wondered if the Communication to the City Commission was delivered to the City Manager's office. Ms. Mannix replied affirmatively; it was discussed at a design meeting on December 28, 2015, during review for Fire Station #8. The City Commission discussed it two months ago.

Chair Jarrett asked Chief Hoechert how his meeting went with the City Manager about the cutback on plans for completing the stations. He also wondered how the idea for renovation originated. Ms. Mannix replied that if they build Fire Station #8 at the cost of \$5.4 million and Fire Station #54 at a cost of \$5-6 million, that would only leave a few million in the Fire Bond funds. She said it would be difficult to construct a new station with \$2 million or less.

Ms. Mannix said she would proceed with the new stations (#8 and then #54) before the renovation of Fire Station #13. Chair Jarrett commented on the small size of Fire Station #13.

Fire Chief Hoechert commented that the City Manager was not receptive about keeping the size of the buildings as they were. He requested that they continue looking for ways to reduce the cost. He thought the compromise on the design of Fire Station #54 was acceptable. Regarding Fire Station #8, Chief Hoechert stated there will be no community room, lobby, or exam room due to space limitations and said they were instructed to reduce the costs or it would not get built. He said it is a three-bay station; they plan to move the hazardous materials team to that facility. Chief Hoechert stated that funding from an alternative source would have to be found to renovate or rebuild Fire Station #13, and the funding would be up to the City Manager and City Commission.

Chief Hoechert said he wants Stations #54 and #8 to “come out of the ground” now since it will take several years until they are ready to occupy. He commented that Fire Station #13 is dated, and he would rather not renovate it.

Chair Jarrett requested PDF files of the Stations #8 and #54 floor plans to be emailed to Committee members.

Chief Hoechert relayed that there was no value in trimming Station #54 so that would not be done.

Mr. Snedaker wondered if all stations would still be considered “Safe Harbors” if they did not have exam rooms, and Chief Hoechert replied in the affirmative. He said people would have to sit in the lobby or elsewhere for treatment.

Chief Hoechert said they took out about 1,200 square feet of space (the community room) from Fire Station #8 and some living space (one dormitory) as well. They added a third bay for the hazmat truck.

Ms. Mannix mentioned that the bond requires three structures to be built or renovated. In order to fund the projects, the City Manager decided to fund approximately \$625,000 of Fire Station #8 from other funds and \$792,000 for Fire Station #54 from other funds. That leaves approximately \$1 million for the third station. She emphasized that safety is the highest priority, especially in the area around Fire Station #8; most of the Hazmat calls will be for that station so that had to be a priority.

At this time, Chief Hoechert stated that the Hazmat team is at the Executive Airport, at the north end of the City.

Chair Jarrett provided some history on the bond issue. He thought they were eliminating items (such as exam rooms) that the citizens were promised.

Mr. Snedaker requested a status update on the Antioch College situation. Ms. Mannix said they are still waiting for Antioch to respond to the DEP. They have given the map

to Chief Hoechert and will ask him to determine if the sites are feasible. If any options are reasonable, those will be forwarded to the DEP. At this point, she said there is not enough money to build a new station. Mr. Snedaker thought the funding from the City Manager would help them build the final station. Ms. Mannix pointed out that costs keep rising - there will only be \$800,000 left. For the current projects costs such as staff time, furniture, etc. will come out of other [non-bond fund] accounts.

Chair Jarrett requested a more detailed breakdown of completed construction costs to include actual construction, design costs, and staff costs, but Ms. Mannix did not know if staff could provide accurate historic numbers. She also pointed out that design is an integral part of construction. Chair Jarrett said he would provide his historic documents for discussion.

Vice Chair Meade wanted to see the other costs, such as relocation of temporary housing that might come out of the bond budget.

Chair Jarrett hoped that the proposed Police Department's bond would avoid the pitfalls of the Fire Department bond.

Mr. McTigue verified that Fire Station #13 is approximately \$4 million under-funded.

Chair Jarrett discussed when the next meeting should be, in light of the fact they did not have a quorum at this meeting. Ms. Mannix advised that the only item to be addressed in the interim would be at the DRC meeting on February 23, 2016, where staff will give comments for Fire Station #8.

Attendance requirements were discussed, and Vice Chair Meade noted that if they reduce the number of positions on the Committee, the number required for a quorum would also decrease. However, it was pointed out that the number of members is determined by the City Commission, and the quorum relates to how many positions are on the Board, not how many are currently filled.

IV. Communication to the City Commission – None

V. Adjournment – Next regular meeting: March 24, 2016

It was decided to have the next meeting at the regularly scheduled time.

Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

[Minutes prepared by J. Rubin, Prototype, Inc.]